

Prickly News

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter

January 2016

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<http://www.southcoastcss.org>

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our Facebook page

NEXT MEETING

Michelle Cloud-Hughes
"Hiding in plain sight: a new cactus species from the California Desert"
Sunday January 10, 1:30pm
We will meet in the hall.

REFRESHMENTS FOR JANUARY

Thanks to those who helped in December:
Carol Causey and many others
No list of volunteers for January refreshments!
PLEASE BRING SOMETHING IF YOU CAN
Kitchen Volunteers – Please see Carol Causey after the meeting if you are able to help with kitchen cleanup.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By any measure, our holiday potluck was another success. Thanks to M.A., Maria, Ana, Phyllis, and many others the hall decorations were festive. The "succulent cups" made by Robert and Phyllis, with a little help from elves, for everyone, were a nice Christmas surprise gift. As usual, Carol brought order to the kitchen, the side dishes and desserts were amazing, and Bernard' prime ribs were - shall I say, "succulent?".



If you weren't there I assume you had other plans, and that's okay. But the potluck is one of the few times during the year when we have time to get to know each other with extended conversation, rather than our ritualized, "Hi, how are you?"
About a dozen members brought in their 'Annual Plant for 2015', *Euphorbia hedyotoides*. These are still young plants and look a little wimpy, but with very little care they are growing tuberous roots. Experts advise to allowing the tuber grow a few more years before raising it. Maybe we'll have it as a mini-show genera in 3-4 years or have a reprise of our 'Annual Plant' event.
If you didn't pick up your free Annual Plant for 2016 at the potluck, *Mammillaria zeilmanniana*, the remaining plants will be available in January.

As we await the expected rain that should result from one of the strongest El Nino events in its, albeit short, recorded history, I encourage you to take precautions - soon, weather permitting. Remember, we should expect strong winds to accompany and follow the rain. Temperatures are expected to be warmer than normal. Here are the average temperatures for L.A. County.

Month	Low	High
Jan	48.5°F	68.1°F
Feb	50.3°F	69.6°F
Mar	51.6°F	69.8°F
Apr	54.4°F	73.1°F

Dale La Forest
President



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PRESENTER FOR JANUARY: Michelle Cloud-Hughes
"Hiding in plain sight: a new cactus species from the California Desert"

Cylindropuntia chuckwallensis is a newly-described cactus found in San Bernardino, Riverside, and northern Imperial Counties, California. Michelle's presentation will describe how this historically-misidentified cholla was determined to be a distinct new species and the characteristics that distinguish it from similar cholla species. This presentation will provide detailed information on where to see "the chucky cholla" as well as many other intriguing succulents found in the same areas.

Michelle was one of the most vibrant speakers at the 2015 CSSA Convention. Don't miss out on her fantastic energy and learning about this newly discovered species.



Michelle Cloud-Hughes is a botanist and restoration ecologist specializing in desert flora and ecosystems. She worked for the Soil Ecology and Restoration Group at San Diego State University from 1997 to 2013 and spent most of those years doing restoration work in the central Mojave Desert at Fort Irwin National Training Center. In 2010 she started her company, Desert Solitaire Botany and Ecological Restoration, and since then has been involved in many rare plant surveys and other botanical and restoration projects throughout the southwestern U.S. Her main love is *Cylindropuntia*, but she is also fascinated by other cactus, particularly *Echinocereus*, *Grusonia*, *Pediocactus*, and occasionally even *Opuntia*.

Happy New Year 2016

MINI-SHOW PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM) 2016		
	Cactus	Succulent
January	Mammillaria – single head	Dudleya
February	Echinocereus	Crassula
March	Ferocactus	Gasteria
April	PLANT SHOW AND SALE	<i>Click to see complete lists on our web site</i>
May	Gymnocalycium	
June	Eriosyce (Neochilenia, Neoporteria...)	Echeveria
July	Lobivia, Echinopsis	Pachypodium
August	Thelocactus, Stenocactus	Aizoaceae (other than Lithops)
September	Coryphantha, Escobaria	Adromischus
October	Rebutia, Sulcorebutia	Aeonium
November	Miniature (3" or less)	Miniature (3" or less)
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	

CACTUS of the MONTH - Mammillaria - single head

Submitted by Jim Tanner

There are around 300 species of Mammillaria. Most are native to Mexico, some are native from southwestern USA, Caribbean, Central America, or even a couple in northern South America. In their range you can find Mammillarias from sea level to high elevations. They also vary in size from miniature 1 inch in diameter (2.5 cm), to columnar types 1 foot tall (30 cm).

The name Mammillaria comes from the Latin for “nipple”, because the areolas (structures carrying the spines) are carried by nipple like structures instead of being organized in ribs like many other cacti. Another significant difference is that the flowers are not coming from the areola, but from the area at the juncture of 2 tubercles.

As could be expected from so many species, their growing requirements are quite varied. Many species are easy and fast to grow and bloom while young, which contributes to their popularity. Some are quite hardy while others will rot easily if kept too cold. All of them require excellent drainage. This is more easily accomplished by using a good cactus soil mixture, and using a shallow pot.

In general the Mammillarias bloom easily, but many species need a rest period in winter during which they are kept cool in order to bloom. Furthermore flowers form a ring on tissue grown the previous growing season, so it is important to get them to grow every year, which means regular watering and fertilizing during their growing period.

[Click to see the same with more pictures on our website](#)



Mammillaria wrightii



Mammillaria longimamma



Mammillaria supertexta



Mammillaria centricirrha



Mammillaria senilis

SUCCULENT of the MONTH - Dudleya
Submitted by Jim Tanner

[Click to see the same with more pictures on our website](#)

Dudleya is a genus of succulent perennials, consisting of about 45 species in southwest North America and northern Mexico. Only a handful are common in cultivation and many are on the endangered species list. A few can only be found on some of the islands off the California coast.

At one time Dudleyas were included in the Echeveria genus, and one can certainly see why as some species are a bit hard to tell from Echeverias. All Dudleyas are rosette-forming succulents, like the Echeverias, and many are similarly colored. Most Dudleyas are silvery grey, have very delicate leaves that are either flattened or tubular and tend to form stems over time. Most of the flat, thick-leaved forms grow as solitary rosettes while the tubular-leaved species form dense, suckering colonies. The flowers differ somewhat from Echeveria flowers and that is probably the primary reason they are in their own genus now. Dudleya flowers arise from somewhere near the bottom of the rosettes normally (rarely from the rosette center as most Echeveria flowers do). Also, Dudleya flowers are characteristically covered with leaves that are spread out along the peduncle up to the flower, another non-Echeveria-like trait. Most Dudleyas flower in late winter to early spring, and flower colors range from white, to yellow to bright red. In horticulture, Dudleya should be planted at an angle. This prevents the buildup of water in the leaves, which may lead to the leaves rotting.



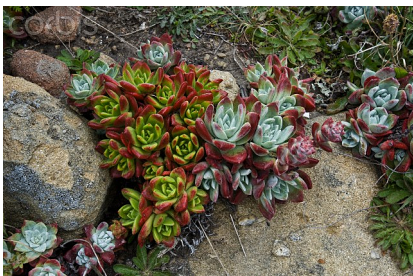
Dudleya brittonii



Dudleya edulis



Dudleya lanceolata



Dudleya farinosa



Dudleya virens



Dudleya gnoma



Dudleya stolonifera

ANNUAL PLANT 2016 - *Mammillaria zeilmanniana*

Members were given one of these at the start of the year. We are to look after it and bring it back at the December 2016 meeting (the annual Pot Luck) for comparison. Most of the plants distributed have rosy-purple flowers whereas some have white flowers. It will be interesting to see next year if there is any correlation between the flower color and other elements of their appearance, such as the coloration of the spines or the amount of white down.

Habitat:

Endemic to Guanajuato, Mexico. It was rediscovered near San Miguel de Allende in Cañada Virgen in 1987 (Fitz Maurice 1988). The range is less than 1 km², it grows at elevations of around 1950 m.

Grows in a very restricted area in a narrow passage with sheer volcanic rock, large trees and flowing water offered shade and humidity in an otherwise very dry environment. Its roots grow in the thin layer of moss and fern growth that covered the lower, shaded vertical rock that formed the canyon side.

Description:

Clump forming soft bodied glossy green globular or columnar stems up to 5 inches (12.5 cm) tall and up to 3 inches (7.5 cm) in diameter. Prominent oval tubercles arranged 13 to 21 around the circumference with 4 reddish central spines (the upper 3 straight, the lowest hooked) and clusters of soft hair-like 15 to 18 white radial spines, they can be pubescent (downy). Rosy-purple or white funnel shaped flowers with yellowish stigmas usually forming a ring near the top of the stem. Flower rings are present most of the year. The fruit is whitish green to pale pink and the seed is black.

One of the most heavily flowering of all the *Mammillaria*, should be in every collection.

Care:

Relatively easy to grow. To encourage better flowering, allow the plants to enjoy a cooling period in the winter without watering, cover from rain. Unlike many other cacti, which use their ribs as storage devices, *Mammillaria* have raised tubercles, from which spines emerge. When watered, the tubercles will expand to allow for increased water storage. The flowers emerge from the axils of these tubercles on the previous year's growth, which accounts for their interesting halo effect.

Requires a very well draining medium. Benefits from repotting every 2-3 years, preferably during the warm season. Prefers bright light and good airflow. Outside it likes full sun with afternoon shade, inside it needs bright light, and some direct sun. Water well when it is dry to the touch. Restrict water in the winter as it is rot prone. Protect from frost, but hardy to -6°C (21°F) if kept dry. During the growing season feed with a fertilizer rich in potassium and phosphorous but poor in nitrogen which can make them too soft and full of water.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2016

- Jan. 16 **CSSA Desert Forum** – HUNTINGTON Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA., Info: 626-405-3504
- Feb. 13 **San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, Spring Show and Sale**
Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA—Info 858-382-1797
- Mar. 18-19 **Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society Spring Show and Sale**
Thurs. 17th 6-8pm---Fri. Mar. 18th 9-7pm---Sat. Mar. 19th 9-5pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA. Info: 562-587-3357
- Apr. 9-10 **South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Show & Sale**
South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, CA. Info: 310-378-1953
- Apr. 24 **Huntington Plant Sale** 10 to 4:30 Huntington Botanical
Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. 626-405-3504
- May 1 **South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale**---9am To 4pm
South Coast Botanical Gardens, Info. 310-833-6823
- Apr. 30, May 1 **Sunset Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale**
Veterans Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA. Info: 310-822-1783
- May 13-14 **Gates Cactus and Succulent Society 34th Show and Sale**
Fri & Sat 9-4:30pm, At Land Scapes Southern California Style
450 E. Alessandro Blvd., Riverside, CA Info. 951-360-8802
- May 21-22 **Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show and Sale** 10-4 pm
Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA., Info. 562-631-5876
- May 28-29 **Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Annual Show & Sale** (10-4pm),
Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA
Info. 805-237-2054, www.centralcoastcactus.org
- June 11-12 **Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Plant Show and Sale** 11th 9-5—12th 9-3:30
Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA., Info. www.lacss-show.com
- June 4-5 **San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society –SUMMER Show and Sale**
Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA. Info: 858-382-1797
- July 1-3 **CSSA Annual Show and Sale** –HUNTINGTON Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA., 626-405-3504
Plant sales start July 1st thru July 3rd. The show opens July 2nd thru July 3rd
- July 22-23 **Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society Summer Show and Sale.**
Thurs. 21st 6-8pm, Fri. July 22nd 9am-7pm, Sat. 23rd 9-5pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA. Info: 949-212-8417
- Aug. 13-14 **31st Annual Intercity Show and Sale** at the LA County Arboretum,
9am-5pm daily. 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA.
Info. Call Tom Glavich 626-798-2430 or Artie Chavez 818-482-8795
- Sept. 3 **Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium**
All day at the Huntington 626-405-3504
- Sept. 10 **Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction** -12-5pm
Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA 90615. Info: 562-631-5876
- Oct. 8-9 **Bakersfield Cactus and Succulent Society Show & Sale**
Sat. 10-5---Sun. 11-4 East Hills Mall, Center Court
3100 Mall View Road, Bakersfield, CA 93306 Info: 661-831-8488
- Oct. 22-23 **Palomar Show and Sale** Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4, San Diego Botanic Gardens
230 Quail Gardens Rd, Encinitas, CA. Info: hciservices@gmail.com. Info: 858-382-1797
- Nov. 5-6 **San Gabriel Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale** 9am-4pm both days
LA County Arboretum 310 No. Baldwin, Arcadia, CA.
Info: Manny Rivera 626-780-6957 or John Matthews 661-714-1052

LATIN LOOKUP - Loquerisne Latine (Do you speak Latin)?

The meanings of the latin names of plants in this newsletter - taken from <http://davesgarden.com/guides/botany/>

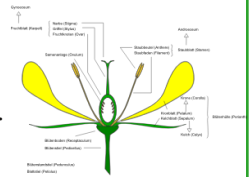
Name	Meaning	Pronunciation
Aizoaceae	Family name, meaning evergreen	ay-zoh-AY-see-ee
Adromischus	From the Greek hadros (thick or stout) and mischos (stalk), referring to the short pedicels	ad-roh-MIS-kus
Aeonium	An ancient name used by Dioscorides for one of the species in the genus	ee-OH-nee-um
brittonii	Named for Nathaniel Lord Britton, or his wife Elizabeth Gertrude (Knight) Britton; both were early 20th century botanists	brit-TON-ee-eye
Coryphantha	From the Greek koryphe (summit, top), and anthos (flower), referring to the position of the flowers on these cacti	kor-ry-FAN-tha
Crassula	Somewhat thickened foliage; diminutive of the Latin crassus (thick, fleshy)	KRASS-oo-la
Cylindropuntia	From the Greek cylindro (cylinder) and opuntia (referring to an ancient Greek city, Opus)	sil-in-drop-UN-shee-uh
Dudleya	Named for William Russel Dudley, 19th century botany professor at Stanford University in California (U.S.)	DUD-lee-yuh
Echeveria	Named for Anastasio Echeverria y Godoy, 18th century Spanish botanist	ech-eh-VER-ee-a
Echinocereus	From the Greek echinos, (porcupine) and cereus, referring to the shape of the floral tube	ek-in-oh-KER-ee-us ek-in-oh-SER-ee-us
Echinopsis	From the Greek echinos (sea urchin or hedgehog) and ophis (like), referring to the plant's resemblance to sea urchins	ek-in-OP-sis
edulis	Edible	ED-yew-liss
Eriosyce	From the Greek erion (woolly) and sykon (fig, fruit)	er-ee-oh-SY-kee
Escobaria	Named for brothers Romulo and Numa Pompilio Escobar, of Mexico City (late 1800s to mid 1900s)	es-koh-BAR-ree-uh
Euphorbia	Named for Euphorbus, Greek physician to Juba II, King of Mauretania	yoo-FOR-bee-uh
farinosa	Mealy or powdery	far-ih-NOH-suh
Ferocactus	From the Latin ferus, (fierce) and cactus, referring to its heavy spines	fer-oh-KAK-tus
Gasteria	From gaster, (belly, stomach); referring to swollen base on flower	gas-TAIR-ee-uh
gnoma	Dwarf	NOHM-uh
Grusonia	Named for Hermann Gruson, 19th century German engineer and plant collector from Magdeburg	gru-SON-ee-uh
Gymnocalxium	From the Greek gymnos (naked) and kalyx (covering; calyx); the flower buds are naked	jim-no-kal-LISS-ee-um
lanceolata	Lance-shaped	lan-see-oh-LAY-tuh
Lobivia	Anagram of Bolivia, where the plant is native	low-BIV-ee-uh
longimamma	From the Latin longus (long) and mamma (nipple)	lon-jee-MAM-muh
Mammillaria	Nipple- or teat-like	mam-mil-AR-ee-uh
Opuntia	Named after Opus (Greece), an area where other cactus-like plants were grown	op-UN-shee-a
Pachypodium	Thick foot	pak-uh-PO-dee-um
Pediocactus	From the Greek pedion (a plain, clearing)	pee-dee-oh-KAK-tus
Rebutia	Named for Pierre Rebut, 19th century French cactus dealer and expert	ray-BEW-tee-uh
Sansevieria	Named for Prince Raimond de Sansgrio de Sanseviero, 18th century patron of botanical expeditions	san-se-VEER-ee-uh
senilis	Of an old man	SEE-nil-is

LATIN LOOKUP - Loquerisne Latine (Do you speak Latin)? - Cont.

Name	Meaning	Pronunciation
Stenocactus	Thin cactus	sten-oh-KAK-tus
stolonifera	Bearing runners	sto-lo-NIF-er-uh
Sulcorebutia	From the Latin sulcus (furrowed) and Rebutia (genus named for Pierre Rebut, 19th century French cactus dealer and expert)	sul-koh-ray-BEW-tee-uh
Thelocactus	From the Greek theles (nipple) and cactus	thel-oh-KAK-tus
virens	Green	VEER-enz
wrightii	Named for 19th century American botanist Charles (Carlos) Wright, who collected and surveyed in Texas	RITE-ee-eye
zeilmanniana	Named for H. Zeilmann, member of the German Cactus Society	zeel-mah-nee-AY-nuh

BOTANICAL GLOSSARY

Ever find yourself reading up on a plant and being baffled by some of the botanical jargon? Or maybe you would like to learn the proper terms so you can hold your own in a conversation with botanists. Or maybe you just want to impress friends and neighbors with your scientific knowledge.



So here is the next part of our attempt at a dictionary of botanical terms, more to follow later.

MACULATE - spotted.

MARCESCENT - withering without falling off.

MERICARP - the partial fruit of a schizocarp.

MIMICRY - protective resemblance to the surroundings, i.e. lithops amongst quartz patches.

MONOCARPIC - only flowering and fruiting once.

MONOCHASIAL - a cyme in which the branching is continued by a single lateral branch.

MONOTYPIC - a genus consisting of one species.

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Editor's Corner



Thanks to Jade Neely and Gary Duke for supplying the Presenter of the Month material and POM list.

Thanks to Jim Tanner for supplying the Mini-Show and Plant of the Month material.

Contributions to the newsletter are encouraged, especially articles of an educational nature.

Also information on upcoming events that might be of interest to club members are welcomed.

Humorous articles, photos, cartoons, or poetry also welcomed. All submissions should be accompanied by the proper attribution when required by the original author(s).

Mike Short - Editor.